



Magor and St. Mellons  
Rural District Council.

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*Annual Report*  
*of the*  
Medical Officer of Health  
*and*  
Sanitary Inspector

---

*For the Year 1952.*

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NEWPORT, MON.

H. DIGHT AND SONS, PRINTERS,

1953.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the Year Ending 31st December, 1952.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
MAGOR & ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the general conditions of the Public Health for the year for the Rural District of Magor and St. Mellons.

The Report is drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 42/51 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population estimated for 1952	...	...	...	13,560
Area (consisting of 26 parishes)	...	...	43,442	acres
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	3,970
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£83,875
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	£334

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Birth.

The number of births registered was:—

			M.	F.	Total
<b>Total Births</b>	...	...	121	128	249
Legitimate	...	...	118	124	242
Illegitimate	...	...	3	4	7
<b>Total Still Births</b>	...	...	1	1	2
Legitimate	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population for 1952 was 19.6  
 The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population for  
 1952 was ... .. 0.15  
 The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1952 was... 15.3  
 The Still Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1952 was 0.35  
 The Birth Rate for Monmouthshire for 1952 was ... 17.17  
 The Still Birth Rate for Monmouthshire for 1952 was... 0.468

### INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:—

The number of deaths was 5 (M. 1, F. 4) giving a  
 rate of 1,000 live births ... .. 20.1  
 The Rate for the whole of England and Wales was 27.6  
 The Rate for Monmouthshire was ... .. 33.9  
 Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... .. Nil  
 Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... Nil

Ages of children at death under 1 year:

Under 1 week	...	...	...	2
1—2 weeks	...	...	...	Nil
2—3 weeks	...	...	...	3
3—4 weeks	...	...	...	Nil
				—
Total under one month	...	...	...	5
1—3 months	...	...	...	Nil
3—6 months	...	...	...	Nil
6—9 months	...	...	...	Nil
9—12 months	...	...	...	Nil
				—
Total under one year	...	...	...	5

### DEATH RATE.

The number of Deaths registered during the year was... 154  
 (M. 85, F. 69) giving a Death Rate of 10.3 per 1,000  
 The Death Rate for England and Wales was ... .. 11.3  
 The Death Rate for Monmouthshire was ... .. 11.5

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

In the following table deaths are classified under the 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	Nil
Tuberculosis, other	Nil	Nil
Syphilitic Diseases	Nil	1
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Meningococcal infection	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
Measles	Nil	Nil
Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	Nil
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	Nil
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	Nil	Nil
Other malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	7	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	Nil
Diabetes	Nil	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	12
Coronary disease, angina	13	6
Hypertension with heart disease	2	3
Other heart disease	13	12
Other circulatory diseases	6	2
Influenza	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis	3	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	Nil	Nil
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
Nephritis and nephrosis	Nil	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	Nil
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	Nil
Congenital malformations	1	Nil
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	11
Motor vehicle accidents	1	2
All other accidents	5	2
Suicide	1	Nil
Homicide and operations of war	Nil	Nil
All causes	<b>Totals</b> 85	69

## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

Medical Officer of Health, Two Sanitary Inspectors (whole-time Officers).

A contribution of one-half of the salaries is paid by the Monmouthshire County Council.

## **HOSPITAL HEALTH SERVICES, ETC.**

Since 5th July, 1947, these are administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

## **NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, ETC.**

The Monmouthshire County Council as Local Health Authority are responsible for the arrangements and Administration of the Services under Part III of the Act.

The following is a summary of these Services:

- (1) Care of Mothers and Young Children.
- (2) Midwifery Services.
- (3) Health Visiting.
- (4) Home Nursing.
- (5) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (6) Ambulance Services.
- (7) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
- (8) Domestic Help.
- (9) Duties under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Act and Mental Deficiency Acts.

## **MIDWIVES.**

There is one full-time Midwife and three District Nurse/ Midwives practicing within the area.



# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

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## WATER SUPPLIES.

With the completion of main extensions to Henllys, Bettws and Michaelstone-y-Vedw and individual connections thereto near completion it is pleasing to record that over 90 % of the population are provided with a piped supply and the position concerning the sufficiency and quality of the water supply for the Rural District can be regarded as very satisfactory.

Some outlying farms and scattered dwelling-houses throughout the district which are situated beyond the reach of piped supplies are dependent on adjacent "Springs or Wells" the water from which is of variable quantity and quality. In a few cases rain water storage tanks are utilised.

The use of water for domestic purposes from a shallow well which had served two cottages for many years was discontinued, the cottages being provided with a piped supply taken from a nearby private main. Bacteriological examinations over a long period having shown the well to be subject to gross contamination particularly after periods of heavy rain.

The piped supplies of water in this Rural District from water works are "constant" and not intermittent and are not liable to plumbo-solvency action.

Further details of water supplies and the results of samples submitted for Bacteriological examination and Chemical analysis are included in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Full particulars concerning each parish within the District are given in the following table:—

# **PARTICULARS OF PIPED WATER SUPPLIES IN EACH PARISH.**

## **A. By Local Authority or Statutory Water Undertakers.**

PARISH	Number of Dwelling Houses	Number Supplied	Estimated Population	Approximate Population Served
Rogerstone	... 1,436	1,416	4,904	4,836
Graig	... 477	432	1,630	1,476
Marshfield	... 229	207	782	707
St. Mellons	... 274	254	936	867
St. Brides W.	... 54	50	184	171
Peterstone W.	... 48	45	164	154
Henllys	... 94	58	321	198
Bettws	... 45	27	154	92
Michaelstone-y-Vedw	57	32	195	109
Langstone	... 252	230	861	785
Llanwern	... 80	76	273	260
Bishton	... 84	79	287	270
Kemeys Inferior	... 42	25	143	85
Llanmartin	... 62	56	212	191
Llandavenny	... 10	8	34	27
Nash	... 82	76	280	260
Goldcliffe	... 59	51	201	174
Whitson	... 19	17	65	58
Redwick	... 57	55	195	188
Penhow	... 79	54	270	184
Wilcrick	... 5	5	17	17
Magor	... 172	169	588	578
Llanvaches	... 68	30	232	102
Duffryn	... 91	34	311	116
Lower Machen	... 36	4	123	14
Coedkernew	... 58	20	198	68

## **B. By Estate Private Reservoirs.**

Graig	Given above	13	Given above	44
Marshfield	"	5	"	17
Michaelstone-y-Vedw	"	2	"	7
Duffryn	"	44	"	150
St. Mellons	"	11	"	38
Lower Machen	"	20	"	68
Coedkernew	"	36	"	123
Totals	... 3,970	3,641	13,560	12,434

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year two small sewers connecting to existing ones were constructed at Park Avenue, Rogerstone, and Ruperra Close, Bassaleg.

I would again refer to the longstanding and very unsatisfactory disposal of drainage from the Old and New Rows, Henllys and urge the Council to remedy this with the provision of a proper disposal plant as soon as circumstances permit.

With the Council's Cesspool Emptying Service now well established and piped water supplies available to almost every parish it is expected that the number of conversions to water closets with cesspool drainage will increase.

The Council undertake the cleansing of every cesspool twice per annum and for each additional cleansing a small charge is made.

The contents are disposed of on farm and nursery land by request, but care is taken to ensure that the land is so situated to avoid risk of nuisance to the occupiers of nearby properties and the pollution of water supplies and streams.

539 cleansings were made during the year in addition to the desludging of small sewage disposal plants and septic tanks.

When requests were received from neighbouring authorities for the use of the Service these were also accommodated.

## HOUSING.

Number of new houses completed during the year	...	167
(i) By the Local Authority (including temporary accommodation)	...	155
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	Nil
(iii) By other Bodies or persons	...	12

### 1—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	154
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	286
(2) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	112

## **2—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Informal Notice:**

Number of defective dwelling houses repaired in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	65
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## **3—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:**

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	Nil
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs		Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:		
(a) By Owners	... ..	Nil
(b) By Local Authorities in default of Owners	... ..	Nil

## **4—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	89
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:		
(a) By Owners	... ..	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	Nil

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sections 13 and 15.**

All licensed premises and kitchens canteens and food preparing places were visited regularly by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and myself, attention principally being directed to:

- (a) The provision of adequate facilities to enable persons engaged in the handling of food to observe a high standard of cleanliness in regard to themselves and their workplaces.
- (b) The improvement of existing buildings so that the surfaces and fittings thereof could be readily cleansed.
- (c) Provision of suitable food storage to enable food-stuffs to be stored safely.

In addition, advice was given and suggestions were made

to proprietors and employees with the aim of making them fully acquainted with their responsibilities under the Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, etc.

Nevertheless, if the incidence of food and drink infection is to be kept to a minimum much still remains to be done in the field of education in food hygiene before the full co-operation of all persons engaged in food preparation and handling, together with that of the general public, is obtained.

### **MILK AND DAIRIES.**

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950, Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950.**

Most of the Milk produced within the area is sold wholesale to the large pasteurising establishments and the majority of distributors secure their designated milk already bottled from these depots.

The amount of undesignated milk retailed is very small.

Further information relating to Milk and Dairies will be found in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

### **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

All cases of notifiable Infectious Diseases are visited and investigated by the Sanitary Inspector after the receipt of a Notification. Where necessary, arrangements are made for the removal of the patient to an Isolation Hospital, if accommodation is available.

The examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens is carried out at the Laboratory, County Hall, Newport, by the Medical Research Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is supplied free by the Regional Hospital Board.

Diphtheria Immunisation: During the year 1952 a further 1,500 children were immunised:

No. of children under 5 years                      ...    408

No. of children between 5 and 15 years    1,092

There were no notification of Diphtheria received during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

### New Cases and Mortality during 1952.

Age groups	New Cases					Deaths				
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0-1 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 "	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5-15 "	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
15-25 "	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
25-35 "	1	3	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
35-45 "	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
45-65 "	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
65 and up	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis compares favourably with other areas. There is a slight increase in the prevalence of the disease, 15 cases having been notified, as compared with 14 in 1951. Hospital facilities are still very inadequate due to lack of accommodation and shortage of nursing staff.

By arrangement with the Welsh Regional Hospital Board a unit of the Mass Radiography Service visited Rogerstone during the year. Having regard to the fact that about the same period a unit also visited neighbouring areas and factories and the adverse weather on the day, the number examined—401—was not disappointing.



# Notifiable Diseases.

Analysis of Total Cases and Deaths from Infectious Diseases, according to Age Groups for 1952.

DISEASE	Cases Notified.										Deaths.										Age Groups.					Admitted to Hospital	
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over	Totals all ages	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over		Totals all ages
Diphtheria	—	3	1	3	1	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	12
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	2	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Enceph. Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Measles & German Measles	1	6	4	7	6	33	3	1	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	2	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	1
State Nature-Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	—
Totals	3	11	6	13	9	44	4	2	1	2	9	2	106	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14

Tuberculosis is not included in this summary.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (Section 172).**

No action was taken under Section 172 for compulsory removal to hospital of any infectious person suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

### **FOOD POISONING.**

Although an outbreak of paratyphoid B fever occurred in South Wales between April and November there was only one case notified in the area. This was a boy aged 8 years, and the source of infection was traced to a bakehouse situated outside the district.

Under the auspices of the Welsh Board of Health a Committee consisting of Medical Officers of Health from the affected areas was formed to investigate the outbreak. Although a considerable amount of work was done in this direction the ultimate source of infection was never traced.

Whilst 10 other notifications of Suspected Food Poisoning were received, investigations in all cases proved negative.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH P. GILES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



# MAGOR & ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## *Report of the Sanitary Inspector*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

MAGOR & ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work carried out in the Sanitary Inspector's Department for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

In my Annual Report it is necessary to give statistics to form essential records but in Public Health matters where human suffering and adverse living conditions are the subject under review, it is difficult if not impossible, to assess the true value of work satisfactorily carried out.

The major problem confronting the department during the year was the evergreen requirement of repair and reconditioning of houses.

In this respect, I feel that upon looking backwards the problem was tackled with the right spirit and satisfactory results were shown although much is yet remaining undone in the field.

The heart of the problem is, as ever, between landlord and tenant. Where a person does not own the house he lives in and must be protected from the man who does, dilapidations must occur. The occupier disclaims responsibility for repairs, whilst the owner claims that he cannot repair his property because restricted rents prevent him from recovering the cost.

The landlord must be given a sound reason for repairing his property, either that he will lose it or be able to gain from repairs by an adequate increase in revenue from his property.

Many visits were made in connection with suspected food poisoning.

I am satisfied that until the food handler is made conscious of, and also realises and accepts the responsibility of the danger he is handing over to the public whilst handling, preparing or storing food, the food poisoning problem will always remain in the foreground.

93 Informal Notices and 29 Abatement Notices were served under the Public Health Act, 1936.

4 verminous and 3 other premises were duly cleansed. Re-visits to a considerable number of houses was maintained in order to ensure a satisfactorily standard of cleanliness.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, REPAIRS, ETC.

The following is a summary of the work carried out and inspections made during the year:—

Number. of—				
Walls made damp proof	...	...	...	65
Sash cords provided to window	...	...	...	29
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	19
Guttering and downpipes repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	27
Doors repaired and renewed	...	...	...	13
Floors repaired and relaid	...	...	...	19
Windows and window frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	16
Ceiling repaired	...	...	...	6
Skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	2
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	3
Drains cleared and repaired	...	...	...	17
Sinks provided	...	...	...	5
W.C. cisterns and flush pipes repaired	...	...	...	6
W.C. and W.C. tanks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	14
W.C. structures repaired	...	...	...	2
Brickwork around firegrate	...	...	...	3
Taps and water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	5
Grates repaired	...	...	...	5
Yard area paved	...	...	...	3
Fascia boards provided	...	...	...	2

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

When the Act came into operation on 31st March, 1950, the occupier or owner was made responsible for killing rats or mice on his property and keeping his premises free from such infestations.

Certain standards of treatment laid down by the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Fisheries have been of such nature that the occupier or owner could not reasonably be expected to carry them out.

Many of them especially the business premises, employ Servicing Companies to treat their premises; this action more or less carries out the work of disinfection on similar lines to that of the requirements laid down by the Ministry thus assisting and alleviating the Local Authority of the work that is entailed with such premises.

With regard to private dwellings, the Local Authority provide a free service, the work being carried out by your Rodent Operative.

All rat infestations whether private dwellings, business premises, land or other places are inspected and the necessary work carried out either by the mentioned Servicing Companies or by the Local Authority.

The number of properties inspected by the Rodent Operative was 381 and treatment of eradication was undertaken wherever necessary.

Two Sewer maintenace treatments were carried out as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Twenty-four routine treatments were made of the four refuse tips belonging to the Council.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

All cases of notified Infectious Diseases were visited and investigated, and terminal disinfection carried out.

Visits made ... ..	77
Houses disinfected ... ..	31
Patients removed to hospital ...	23

### **WATER SUPPLIES.**

Number of houses supplied from public water mains :—

(i) Direct to the houses ... ..	3,624
(ii) By means of stand-pipes ... ..	17

Approximate population supplied by public water mains :—

(i) Direct to the houses ... ..	12,376
(ii) By means of stand-pipes ... ..	58

### **PIPED SUPPLIES.**

50 samples were taken for Bacteriological examination out of which 15 were unsatisfactory.

The samples were collected from the Council's and Private Reservoirs, the storage tank at Michaelstone-y-Fedw and various distribution points within the area.

185 connections from the Council's and the Newport Corporation water mains were carried out during the year; of this 167 connections were to new houses occupied during the year.

### **SHOPS ACT, 1950.**

No action was taken during the year under the Shops Act 1950, relating to sanitary and other arrangements in shops.

## **RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACT 1920—1939.**

No application was received for a Certificate under the Acts.

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS AND SLAUGHTER HOUSES.**

As a result of the centralisation of slaughtering under the Ministry of Food arrangements, no animals have been slaughtered in the private slaughter houses within your area.

17 applications were received for licences to slaughter pigs only, all of which were granted by the Council.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 269, TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947, SECTION 17—MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.**

Many people acquire a new independence and a desire for at least some part of the year when they please no one but themselves.

The economy of camping has allowed many people to take holidays who could not otherwise afford them, while many others with means have turned to caravans as the only way of holiday-making away from hotels and crowds, with the result that the present time finds an unprecedented number of campers and caravaners.

To meet the steady increase of applications a site at St. Brides Wentlooge adjoining the Tynypwll Hotel came into existence, and it is pleasing to note that the prevailing conditions satisfy to a high standard the requirements of the Public Health Act 1936.

During the year 8 other individual applications were received for siting caravans at different isolated places within the area, 7 of which were granted permission to station and use until 31st December, 1952, when at such date the applications to be reconsidered for a further extended period. 17 renewal licences were also granted in respect of individual caravans.

I would like to take the opportunity of adding my appreciation with regard to the assistance received from the County Planning Officer's Department whilst dealing with the camping site at St. Brides and with all other individual applications granted during the year.



## ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, Etc.) REGULATIONS, 1947 and 1951.

The requirements of these Regulations are that the ingredients of ice-cream after being mixed shall be heat treated and the mixture cooled until freezing has begun. After freezing the ice-cream must be sold at a temperature not exceeding 28 degrees Fahrenheit. Should the temperature exceed 28 degrees Fahrenheit the ice-cream must again be heat treated and afterwards kept at a temperature of not more than 28 degrees Fahrenheit.

No legal prescribed standard has been provided for dealing with cleanliness of ice-cream, but attention has been drawn to a form of Methylene Blue Test which can be used in connection with ice-cream.

There are no premises within the district registered for the manufacture for sale of ice-cream, but there are 39 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream.

All registered premises were inspected at frequent intervals throughout the year, the majority of retailers selling the pre-packed article purchased from the large manufacturers.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. Unsound Food.

15 lbs. of cooked ham, 6 lbs. of jellied veal, 6 lbs. of ox tongue and 30 packets of processed cheese were found on inspection and examination to be unfit for human consumption.

One of the essential duties of the department deals with the inspection of food premises; accordingly a great deal of time was given to the inspections during the last 12 months.

The number of shops displaying foodstuffs outside and without adequate protection from contamination by dust, dirt and other filth has decreased.

Without doubt to maintain a high standard of premises, I have no hesitation in advocating registration of all food premises and that no food shop should be registered no matter how small unless there is a separate room, other than the shop, for the preparation and storage of the foodstuffs.

I am also satisfied that the teaching of clean food handling will achieve as much, if not more, than the requirements of legal standards and much could be done on the educational side without waiting for any statutory action as it has to in so many other spheres.

All licensed premises for the sale of alcoholic drinks were visited during the year when particular attention was given to the provision of facilities for the cleaning of glasses by means of hot water. Provision of sanitary accommodation for both sexes was also examined. Except for a few isolated cases, I have to state that the standard is a high one and am pleased to report that it is apparent that a well-maintained effort is being made by all persons concerned to keep within the bounds of the provisions and requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## MILK AND DAIRIES.

All dairies in your district were periodically visited during the year to ensure compliance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, and the relevant articles of the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 and 1950, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 and 1950.

Complaints were of a minor character which were remedied with the co-operation of the dairyman concerned. Methods of bottling, storing and delivery of milk within the area remain at satisfactory level.

A few complaints were again received during the year from neighbouring authorities of slightly dirty bottles and also of small deposits inside the bottles being sent out from a dairy within the district. From inspections made of the methods of cleansing milk utensils at this dairy, and having regard to the large number of bottles cleansed daily, I am satisfied that the firm concerned are doing all that is possible to keep the complaints to the minimum level. During the relevant inspections my attention was drawn to the filthy condition in which some milk bottles were returned. I am of the opinion that this lack of care is found in all sections of the community—domestic, business and industry, resulting in a large number of bottles being destroyed every day, the washing machines effective as they are, failing to remove the firmly adhering stains and dirt.

During the year 40 licences to retail designated milk were issued and 56 samples of raw and designated milks were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these samples 47 were found to be satisfactory and 9 unsatisfactory.

## HOUSE REFUSE.

A weekly collection of House Refuse is carried out in the following Parishes—Llanwern, Graig, Duffryn, Rogerstone and St. Mellons and a fortnightly collection is maintained in all remaining parishes of the district.

Disposal is by means of tipping at Bettws, Magor, and occasioned no serious nuisances. During the year tipping at Marshfield was discontinued.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Difficulty with certain owners of properties was encountered on a few occasions with not carrying out the necessary work of repairs to houses after the service of Abatement Notices with the result that legal action was resorted to in the following cases:—

<i>Offence.</i>	<i>Decision of Court.</i>
Structural Defects—18, Hadley Street, Rogerstone.	Order made for work to be carried out within 3 months.
Structural Defects—7, Nettlefolds Terr., Rogerstone.	ditto
Structural Defects—22, Tennyson Ave., Llanwern.	ditto

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking members of the staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance and co-operation throughout the year.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

IDRIS JAMES,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1952,  
for the Rural District of Magor & St. Mellons in the County of  
Monmouth.**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

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**1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS  
AS TO HEALTH.**

(including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors )

Premises 1	M/c line No. 2	Number on Register 3	Inspection 4	Number of Written Notices 5	Occupiers Prosecuted 6
1. — Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	3	6	Nil	Nil
2. — Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies.	2	28	33	1	Nil
3.—Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises.)	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>		32	39	1	Nil

**2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.**

Particulars. 1	M/c Line No. 2	Number of cases in which defects were found,				Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted 7
		Found 3	Remedied 4	Referred to H.M. Inspector 5	By H.M. Inspector 6	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	Nil				
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	Nil.				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil.				
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil.				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	Nil.				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	Nil.				
Unsuitable or Defective	10	2	2			
Not separate for sexes ...	11	Nil.				
Other offences (not including offences relating to homework)	12	Nil.				
<b>Total</b> .....		2	2	Nil	Nil.	Nil.









